FBIS DAILY REPORT

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VIDELA INTERVIEWED ON CHARGES OF REPRESSION IN ARGENTINA

BR0509230Y Rome ANSA in English 1900 GMT 5 Sep 78 AU

[Text] Rome, September 5, (ANSA)--Argentinian strongman General Jorge Videla said today that if there has been "excessive repression" in his country, the persons responsible will be punished. In an interview with ANSA, Videla claimed, however, that such an "excessive repression" could be only the last reason behind the "disappearance" of huge numbers of persons in his country. The president ticked off the following reasons for the disappearances: internal struggles among opponents of the regime who kill each other off; the choice made by many persons to go underground; illegal expatriation by [word indistinct] accidents caused by terrorists who handle explosives. Videla did not hazard an estimate of the number of persons who may have been victims of the "excessive repression" but asserted that now his country is ready to launch itself towards a future of peace and democracy.

Commenting on the widespread protest which (?welcomed his) visit to Italy, the general said that the organizers of the protest demonstrations were steered by "non-Italians who wanted to prevent me from coming, but I am here despite everything and this is what counts".

Asked to describe the current situation in Argentina, the president said that "an out and out war had broken out in our country, but now we (?begin) down a new path with the participation of the entire spectrum of public opinion".

ANSA: "But (?what happened) in the last few (?years)"?

Videla: "War is a horrible thing and a war causes deaths, injuries, prisoners and disappearances. In our war--which was not a classic war, but a dirty and confused war--it is true, some people did disappear. I admit that there may have been excessive repression and we are now trying to establish whether this really happened and we are taking the necessary messures".

ANSA: "What now"?

Videla: "In Argentina the activity of political parties has been suspended, with the understanding of the parties themselves. In this moment no one is in a hurry to hold elections, but it is certain that the situation is rapidly becoming normal and that soon everyone can once again participate in the country's political life".

Videla asserted that the process of "national re-organization" underway in Argentina aims at setting up a "full and entirely stable and modern democracy" under which the inhabitants can fulfill themselves in "full liberty and dignity". The Argentinian president said that the painful process of "national reorganization" was necessary: "The situation in Argentina was one of a total political abyss and of social and economic disintegration." "In a moment such as that, of absolute lack of authority, we had to undergo two years of subversive terrorist aggression, which everyone knows about. It was (?then) necessary for the armed forces to seize power. But it was neither a coup d'etat nor a revolution, and now we can say that the process of the nation's re-organization is moving ahead well".

The Argentinian leader, who considers himself a devout Catholic, said that he had spoken with Pope John Paul I about the situation in Argentina and that "the Holy Father demonstrated a profound knowledge of the situation and a great understanding".

ANSA: "Are you aware that 'Amnesty International' (the world's largest civil rights organization, ed.) has published a dossier on Argentina which minutely describes tortures used in your country and lists at least five hundred persons who mysteriously disappeared in the last few months"?

Videla: "Yes, I know about it. But I do not attribute any importance to it and 'Amnesty' will have to take responsibility for the report. I repeat, if there have been excesses, if someone erred he will pay for it but you cannot judge the whole from a few exceptions. I do not like unilateral truths. We do not give weight to the opinions of those who attack us indiscriminately".

Pleased With Rome Visit

PY051527Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1235 GMT 5 Sep 78 PY

[Commentary by TELAM special correspondent Carlos Marzano]

[Excerpts] Rome, 5 Sep--Positive visit and objective achieved--with these few words the nation's president, Lt Gen (ret) Jorge Rafael Videla, summarized his stay in Rome where he arrived 5 days ago to attend the solemn religious ceremony with which Pope John Paul I began his pontificate. During these 5 days, the Argentine chief of state held important meetings, which included political and economic topics, in addition to an audience with the pope.

Today, on the eve of his return to Buenos Aires, the president took a brief break from his program of activities in order to talk with Argentine newsmen covering the details of his trip.

Referring to the beginning of Pope John Paul I's pontificate, the president said: Argentina has shown that it has its own identity, and it was present at such an important ceremony along with more than 100 delegations from all over the world.

He mentioned the anti-Argentine campaign being waged in Europe, and with special virulence in Italy, and emphasized that Argentines destroy lies with the truth. This campaign, these demonstrations by extreme leftwing organizations such as Amnesty International and others which have arisen with the support of money which Marxist-Leninist subversion acquired through robbery, kidnapings or simply extortion of large economic interests have acquired strength from the very moment the military junta took over the vacuum of power left by Peronism on 24 March 1976 when revolutionary leftists found they had lost government support for their plans to seize power. Ever since, the campaign against Argentina's prestige has been conducted through all the communications media. Taking advantage of President Videla's visit to Rome, the tirades of insults against not only the president, but also against the country he represents, have intensified.

Videla came and stood up for Argentina. This morning the president said: "Argentina should not feel paranoid about this campaign, which is run by international foreign interests. We are as much defenders of human rights as others are, but we will not accept any kind of external judgement." General Videla showed firmness and calm in his statements, and he indicated that Argentina is not concerned only with subversion. It offers a broad spectrum of economic, financial, scientific and cultural possibilities which are valued by all the authorities with which he met.

He also stated that the truth about the real situation in Argentina is being strengthened in Italy and that leaders and officials at all levels do not hide the progress gained in the fields of political and economic security and stability. However they know there is little they can do to repress this discrediting campaign, whose objective is to cause relations between the two nations to deteriorate.

In summary, General Videla appeared to be satisfied with the results of his trip, which has permitted him to present the unquestionable truth about what is happening in Argentina at the very base of subversive operations, and to reiterate the firm determination not to permit foreign interference to violate the sovereign rights of the government and people of Argentina.

MILITARY COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS BORDER TALKS; CALLUP DENIED

PY050336Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0138 GMT 5 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Sep (NA)--It was learned today from government sources that General Videla will resume the duties of the presidency on Thursday morning and that he will meet with the military committee in the afternoon. It was indicated that among the matters to be discussed by this high organization are subjects presented by Etcheverry Boneo regarding the border negotiations with Chile.

Regarding this matter, military sources indicated that there has been no callup of any kind, merely exercises of this nature in case certain classes or reserves have to be formally called up. The sources pointed out that considering the political decision which may be adopted, the armed forces must be prepared for any situation, which does not necessarily mean a real possibility of conflict.

Decision Expected on Dispute

PY060007Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2227 GMT 5 Sep 78 PY

[Excerpt] Azul, Buenos Aires, 5 Sep (NA)--Argentine Navy Commander in Chief Emilio Eduardo Massera stated here today that during the meeting scheduled for the day after tomorrow, the military committee will reach "a decision" regarding the Beagle conflict with Chile, and announced that he plans to express his position to the committee. "I do not want to retire without making my position very clear," the chief of the navy said, "and the meeting which the military committee and the military junta will hold the day after tomorrow to reach a decision will provide an opportunity for this."

Massera also said that "it cannot be said that everything is going well with regard to the problem with the neighboring country, but neither can we say that everything is going badly." In response to a question on the possibility that the coming meeting could reach a decision about the negotiations now underway, the commander in chief of the navy said: "Yes, yes, my position is that a decision must be reached before I leave."

Massera made this statement during a talk at the office of the director of the Azopardo navy arsenal 35 km from this city while he was visiting the unit as part of his farewell tour prior to his retirement on 15 September.

In his statement released today by the local afternoon daily PREGON, Massera also talked about the "the armed forces' evaluation of the country's capabilities if faced with a situation which neither the people nor the government want." Massera stated that "we must reassert that old saying: If you want peace, prepare for war. This is still valid."

Viola Optimistic

PY051643Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1355 GMT 5 Sep 78 PY

[Excerpt] Bahia Blanca, 5 Sep (TELAM)--"We are always optimistic regarding the solution of the disagreement we have with Chile. We believe that wisdom will finally prevail among all the negotiators and that we will reach a satisfactory solution without in any way reducing our legitimate sovereign rights over what is really ours." This remark was made by army chief Lt Gen Roberto Eduardo Viola when he was asked by reporters about the border disagreement in the southern area of the country. He arrived at V Corps headquarters this morning and is planning to inspect the corps' garrisons.

RETIRED ADMIRAL PROPOSES CONFEDERATION WITH CHILE

PY021547Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0730 GMT 2 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Bolivia (Buenos Aires Province), 2 Sep (TELAM)--Adm Isaac Rojas, ret, former Argentine interim vice president, has stated that once the border conflict with Chile is solved through the acknowledgement of Argentina's rights in the Atlantic and Chile's rights in the Pacific, the countries should cooperate in laying the cornerstone for a southern cone confederation which would later include Paraguay, Bolivia, Peru and Uruguay.

Admiral Rojas was lecturing in this city on the border conflict in response to an invitation issued by the local rural association. He outlined the background of the conflict and stressed that Chile usurped the Picton, Lennox and Nueva islands because they are the steppingstones which Chile needs to gain access to the Atlantic.

Rojas indicated that unless the repeal of the British ruling is accompanied by a final decision to reclaim everything that Chile is illegitimately occupying south of Cape Horn, no lasting solution will be found--and to find a solution justice must be based on the 1810 possession law (uti possidetis juris).

"Any concession from Argentina to Chile in opposition to the guiding principle that Argentina has no claim over the Pacific and Chile has no claim over the Atlantic will imply the abdication of our rights which will forever jeopardize our security and will become the source of new conflicts in the area south of parallel 54," Rojas added.

He went on to say that this must not prevent the two nations from joining efforts in the search for new courses designed to attain positive integration, and called for the creation of a southern cone confederation, "a giant and complex task, but one worthy of civilized nations which have the same origin."

In this regard he stated that Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, Bolivia and Uruguay are bound to merge to withstand the pressure of other, more vast organizations such as the communist bloc, which seeks worldwide control and the subjection of mankind.

Finally Admiral Rojas indicated that this "unity must have a moral basis which can be none other than the prior acknowledgement of the rights which the two countries have: Chile in the Pacific and Argentina in the Atlantic. The time for unity will come afterwards."

LABOR LEADERS SEE CARTER'S PRINCIPLES AS PERONIST

PY031708Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1501 GMT 4 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Sep--Union sources stated here today that the message sent by U.S. President Jimmy Carter to the UN conference on technical cooperation coincides with the doctrine of former Argentine President Juan Peron.

Next Thursday local union leaders will address the conference now taking place here sponsored by the Inter-American Confederation for Free Labor Organizations (CIOSL), a non-government organization represented at the United Nations.

They explained to AFP that the opening point of their address will be based on Carter's message which praises the struggle for economic development, social justice and political independence. They recalled that three fundamental banners of Peronism are social justice, economic independence and political sovereignty, similar to those expressed by Carter.

The participation of the union leaders at the UN conference was preceded by intense negotiations with the Argentine military government, which has suspended the union's activities.

The same sources indicated that their message will express the position of the workers movement on technical cooperation among developing countries in which the presence of the social sector should be a priority issue.

UN DELEGATE TOLD OF NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS IN ARGENTINA

PY311837Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1505 GMT 31 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 Aug (TELAM)--Atomic energy was discussed today at one of the parallel meetings organized by the national committee of the UN conference on technical cooperation among developing countries, during which the country's technological progress is being discussed.

The Argentine delegate to the conference and director of research and development of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], Hugo Juan Bramsspe, told TELAM that the subjects discussed were aimed at showing Argentina's capabilities in basic applied research and nuclear technological development. He added that a fluid north-south dialog must not be just talk but must open a new prospect for horizontal technological development--that is to say, among developing countries. He emphasized that "in Argentina we have highly qualified international-level experts and Argentine aid can be classed among the best in the world.

It is worth mentioning that these meetings are attended by representatives of 14 public and private enterprises and four operational fields were discussed: technology, advisership financing and training.

NEW NATIONAL LABOR COMMISSION CREATED: DOCUMENT ISSUED

PY011943Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1114 GMT 1 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Sep (NA)--A new labor organization named the National Labor Commission [Comision Nacional de Trabajo] has been formed. The commission has released an appeal for unity of the labor movement and has criticized economic and salary policies. It believes that the changes planned in the social work law could become a "true expropriation."

This new group formed by traditional leaders has the support of nearly 80 unions identified with the work and action commission, the dissident verticalists and the independents, but has not gained the support of the verticalists, participationists, antiverticalists and the orthodox. This emphasizes the lack of unity among Argentine unions.

The document states that "workers are experiencing a stage full of difficulties in which we have been converted into special victims of the economic crisis." It adds: "The reduction of income, which has brought the standard of living to a low never before experienced, has been added to the limitations imposed on free union activity and to the effort aimed at weakening their representative organizations through the intention to change the social work law with guidelines which, if approved, can become a true expropriation."

The group also states that "the fact that many leaders and delegates are under arrest without any process" and that "the real worker's representatives are constantly being [illegible] save elements which help consolidate this situation.

It adds: "In view of this dramatic situation, the labor movement has no alternative but to speed up its unity above partial disagreements through general participation in the making of great decisions and the recovery, defense and preservation of union structures."

The new group advocates "the internal unity of the labor movement" and says that the "necessary corrections must be carried out to help increase balanced economic activity in all the country's productive sectors." The group also believes that "national industry must be widely protected," that the "internal market must be reactivated," and that "real salaries must be insured through the greater and better distribution of wealth, putting aside the selective system of salary flexibility and breaking the collective labor conventions."

The document states in conclusion the need to increase the minimum salary and to have full employment.

The leaders of the National Labor Commission planned to deliver this document today to Francis Blanchard [International Labor Organization director general].

The statement reveals that negotiations have failed on unity with the Commission of the 25, whose leaders had proposed a conciliatory proposal which finally did not work out.

The commission will be headed by an exectuive board of 30 members of whom 24 have already been appointed (8 for each group), leaving 6 positions vacant in the hope that new sectors will join the organization and also fill positions of leadership. The deadline to join is Tuesday, 5 September 1978. It was reported that on that date the executive board will be officially formed with one secretary and ten members and its formation will be officially reported to the Labor Ministry.

FORMER PRESIDENT LANUSSE ADVOCATES USE OF REFERENDUM

PY051836Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1610 GMT 4 Sep 78 PY

[Excerpts] Cordoba, 4 Sep (NA)--Former President Lt Gen Alejandro Agustin Lanusse has said that he is in favor of a popular referendum for the government to commit the people to important measures it will take, and that he is also in favor of the creation of a body of advisers composed of retired military chiefs, a body in which Adm Emilio Massera and Brig Gen Orlando Agosti may well participate "to contribute to the process with their experience, but from outside the government."

As for the idea of a referendum, Lanusse explained: "I have said that whoever talks of elections in Argentina today is being irresponsible because the country does not stand to gain from going into an election period in the near future. "But I have also said there are risks in trying to govern without getting the people committed. How, then, can we reconcile the idea of not holding elections and still get the people committed? The people can be committed through a referendum. I do not know of any other procedure."

Asked directly about the case of Admiral Massera, Lanusse said: "I have high regard for these gentlemen, both Admiral Massera and General Agosti, or any other member of the government in any branch of the armed forces. They will realize that they cannot walk away from the process or relinquish their responsibility in it. They will retire from active military service, but their experience should be of interest to those who remain in the government." He added: "I believe that all these people, particularly Admiral Massera, have accumulated experience in government which should not be wasted, the more so because he is an honest man and I have no reason to think that he does not have good motives."

DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED IN BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM

Safeguards Agreement Signed

PY0116154Y Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese 1545 GMT 1 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Brazil signed the safeguards agreement for the sale of enriched uranium today. The communique was released by the Foreign Ministry of Great Britain, which together with the FRG and the Netherlands forms the Urenco consortium. The safeguards were requested by the Netherlands, which demanded a guarantee that Brazil is not going to use the uranium to manufacture an atomic bomb. The contract stipulates that Brazil will receive 2,000 tons of enriched uranium worth more than $300 million--approximately 5 billion cruzeiros--in 1981.

Angra 1 Fuel

PY0220130Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 2 Sep 78 p 20 PY

[Text] Foreign Minister Azeredo da Silveira said yesterday that Urenco--the German, Netherlands, British uranium enriching consortium which will supply enriched uranium for Angra 2 and 3--could also supply it for Angra 1. Of course, Nuclebras and the U.S. Westinghouse Company have already signed a contract for the supply of enriched uranium for Angra 1.

Azeredo da Silveira said: "This agreement can provide uranium for any of our plants. We have not signed anything forbidding us to use Urenco-supplied uranium in Angra 1. You have given attention to the notes exchanged and could see that they do not speak of Nuclebras and Urenco directly. This is an agreement among sovereign states."

The foreign minister's declaration was taken as an indication that the Brazilian Government could buy uranium for Angra 1 from Urenco in case the provisions of the U.S. antiproliferation law, which regulates the export of sensitive material by the United States, should stand in the way of the supply contract signed between Nuclebras and Westinghouse.

Azeredo da Silveira does not believe there should be any difficulty, however. He said: "The United States has said it is willing to give us the initial charge. This charge has some special characteristics which charges now manufactured no longer have. So if the charge is not sent to Brazil, there is only one other plant, in Yugoslavia, where it could be used."

As for the supply of additional charges for Angra 1, Azereda da Silveira said: "Brazil has other markets to purchase from." He cited France and the Soviet Union as potential suppliers if the United States should refuse to provide additional charges. The minister noted that the antiproliferation law can be modified, but so far "Brazil meets all its requirements."

$110-Million Loan

PY0423149Y Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 4 Sep 78 PY

[Text] The Brazilian Nuclear Corporation today signed a $110-million loan contract in Dusseldorf, FRG, which will be earmarked for the following projects of the Brazilian nuclear program: construction of a factory of the Nuclebras Heavy Equipment Inc. in Itaguai, Rio de Janeiro State; construction of the Pocos de Caldas industrial complex in Minas Gerais State; and construction of a factory for fuel elements in Resende, Rio de Janeiro State. All these projects are underway and will start operating next year.

FIGUEIREDO ADDRESSES FOREIGN PRESS AT LUNCHEON IN RIO

PY051751Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2149 GMT 4 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 4 Sep (AFP)--Gen Joao Baptista Figueiredo, official candidate for the Brazilian presidency, stated here today that he cannot allow a technical problem, a question of 5 meters, to endanger the friendship between Brazil and Argentina. General Figueiredo, guest of honor at a luncheon given by the foreign press, referred in those words to the dispute between the two countries over the building of the Itaipu Dam (by Brazil and Paraguay) and the Corpus Dam (by Argentina and Paraguay) on the Parana River. The Brazilians maintain that if the Corpus Dam is higher than 105 meters it will reduce the potential of Itaipu, whereas the Argentines calculate that the Corpus project will not be economically viable if it is lower than 110 meters.

The general recalled with emotion the hospitality granted by Argentina to his family in exile in Buenos Aires during Getulio Vargas' dictatorship in Brazil, and he implicitly criticized the diplomats of the two countries when asserting that the problem should be handled at its true level--that is, at the exclusively technical level.

The presidential candidate, who has made a preliminary statement that his foreign policy will be based on universalism, explained that this doctrine is not incompatible with the stand taken by Brasilia regarding Cuba. He said: "The Cubans persist in wanting to export their regime. When they desist from that we will receive them with open arms.

Figueiredo confirmed, on the other hand, that he will make an effort to maintain the present flow of trade between Brazil and the countries of Eastern Europe.

Regarding the human rights policy of the U.S. Government, General Figueiredo asserted that Brazil could not accept its assuming the form of interference in its internal affairs, and he said he hopes that the misunderstandings which have occurred between the two countries may soon be overcome.

Regarding French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing's coming visit to Brazil, General Figueiredo stated that he will be welcome, not so much because of the political significance of the visit, but rather because of the cultural bonds and the fraternal friendship existing between France and Brazil.

General Figueiredo then said that he would firmly oppose any rebirth of Nazism in Brazil, and that his country has never intended to manufacture the atomic bomb.

The presidential candidate, who has politically identified himself with social democracy, "strictly in the center, far from any extremism," stated that nobody could be more determined than he to guide Brazil toward democratic normality.

He added: I have not said that a victory for the opposition in the coming legislative elections will harm the liberalization process. I did say, however, that a victory for the National Renewal Alliance (the government party) would facilitate it simply because I know what I am going to do, but I have doubts about the achievements of the opposition.

MINISTER SAYS STATE OF SIEGE WILL CONTINUE

PY060110Y Santiago Chile Cadena Agricultura in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Minister Secretary General of Government Rene Vidal Merino stated today that the state of siege in [illegible] Province will continue as long as attempts to make political advantage of mineral labor problems persist.

Rene Vidal added that an investigation is underway to uncover other political agitators and hinted that more activists may be arrested shortly because it is obvious that the 15 persons arrested recently are not the only ones who have been guilty of political instigation in problems involving labor and economic issues exclusively.

He stated: "The state of siege will be lifted only when the government can be sure that there will be no more attempts to take political advantage of the situation.

RADIO COMMENTATOR FORESEES 'AUTHORITARIAN DEMOCRACY'

PY051808Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 5 Sep 78 PY

[Commentary by Raphael Pisainer]

[Excerpt] Good morning. In his message to the country on 11 September, which will mark the fifth anniversary of 11 September 1973, the Chilean president will presumably make some announcements regarding the constitution which Chileans will have next year. This announcement which the president will presumably make is, of course, anticipated with great interest, since the president will explain the constitutional reorganization and the political trend to be followed in future years in the country.

It is tremendously important to know for sure the principles on which the new constitution will be based. This is what really matters. It is not very important to determine whether the president's administration will last 4 or 5 or 6 years, or whether the president can be reelected after a presidential term has ended. Nor does it matter whether there will be 145 or 150 deputies, or whether there will be one deputy for each 30,000 inhabitants or for a fraction over 15,000 in the respective provinces, as the original constitution provided for, a provision which has never been heeded. It does not matter either whether there will be more senators or fewer. What is really important is what the principles are and, of course, the composition of the houses of Congress, particularly of the Senate. The majority seems to favor a percentage of senators chosen according to merit--because they are personalities, famous men in the various fields of national activity--and a percentage of elected senators. But, I repeat, this is not what really matters. The principles of the new constitution are what really matter.

Prior commentaries have already anticipated [words indistinct] that this will be an authoritarian and restrictive democracy, a democracy within which political parties will not be the bases for campaigning for election. Instead they will simply be currents of opinion.

FORMER JUNTA MEMBER LEIGH DISCLOSES ASSETS

PY0102347 Paris AFP in Spanish 2336 GMT 31 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 31 Aug (AFP)--Gen Gustavo Leigh, a former member of the military junta which governs Chile, stated today that his assets are the same as those he had 5 years ago.

Leigh, together with other chiefs of the armed forces, participated in the coup which overthrew the late socialist President Salvador Allende, but in July 1978 he was dismissed from his junta post and the post of air force commander.

In a surprise move today Leigh arrived at a downtown public notary's office and asked that a sealed envelope be opened in which a sworn statement regarding his assets had been kept since September 1973.

Similar envelopes contain the statements made at that time by President Augusto Pinochet, Navy Commander Adm Jose Toribio Merino and the director general of carabineros, (military police) Cesar Mendoza.

A fairly large crowd applauded Leigh at the door of the public notary's office where, he announced, he would return next week with a new sworn statement to compare it with the assets he had when the military regime took over.

Facing a barrage of about 20 reporters, Leigh refused to comment on the policies of the government, from which he was dismissed on 24 July 1978 because he made statements seeking a return to democracy, openly disagreeing with junta policy.

"This poor country has so many problems to face that we must not open fronts of another nature," he said.

BRIEFS

ADVISER TO LOS CONFERENCE--Francisco Orrego Vicuna, a lawyer and Foreign Ministry adviser, has left for New York to participate in the preliminary conference on law of the sea sponsored by the United Nations. [Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 5 Sep 78 PY]

BUSINESS BACKS GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC MEASURES

PA051940Y Bogota Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1750 GMT 5 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--All economic organizations today expressed their full support for President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala and committed themselves to seek the complete reestablishment of security in the country. The National Industrialists Association [ANDI], [name indistinct], the National Federation of Businessmen, the Colombian Metallurgical Federation [name indistinct] and other organizations expressed confidence in the economic measures that the present administration will adopt. The business sector's opinion is contained in a document that will be delivered to President Turbay Ayala at San Carlos Palace at 1700 today. The document was drafted in the last few hours and [words indistinct] president of the [words indistinct] and the president of the ANDI, Pablo Echeverri Correa. Turbay Ayala today reviewed aspects of the announced package of economic measures [words indistinct].

ENERGY MINISTER REFUTES NO FUEL PRICE INCREASE

PA052037Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--Yesterday evening, the government ratified its decision of not decreeing a readjustment in fuel prices at this time. Mines and Energy Minister Alberto Vasquez Restrepo made a statement to this effect at the conclusion of his weekly meeting with President Turbay. He said that those reports that the government would decree an increase in gasoline prices as part of the economic measures now under study are without basis.

FARC ATTACKS TOWN, KILLS THREE PEASANTS

PA052047Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Bucaramanga--A Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] commando group this morning attacked the village of Aqualinda in Campo Capote, southern Santander Department, and shot three peasants to death. The guerrilla group belonging to the FARC's fourth front was made up of 11 men and 1 woman. It opened fire on the homes of the peasants and killed Florentino Martinez, Ramiro Vargas and Adan Cifuentes. The guerrillas succeeded in breaking through a cordon of regular army troops surrounding the village. The FARC's fourth front is commanded by Ricardo Franco and has massacred over 40 peasants in the Campo Capote area so far this year.

GOVERNMENT, LINGUISTICS INSTITUTE DENY EXPULSION

PA012340Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1959 GMT 31 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 31 Aug (EFE)--The Colombian Government and the Summer Linguistics Institute today denied that the latter will be expelled from the country for supposed irregularities in its operation. Julian Marvaez, chief of Colombia's Indian Affairs Division, said that his office has never issued a report on the Summer Linguistics Institute, much less requested its expulsion. He added that reports to this effect are false and malicious and that a through investigation will be made of the matter. Willard Kinderg, director of the institute, said that several weeks ago the government had advised him that it was in a position to operate the institute and was therefore requesting his resignation but that this decision was changed afterward. The situation of the Summer Linguistics Institute, a U.S. organization which operates in the Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta and in the Sierra de la Macarena, is being studied by the Council of State because it is was accused of performing evangelical rather than scientific work, as it is supposed to do.

TRIAL OF PICHINCHA ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL MEMBERS BEGINS

PA312138Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 31 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpts] Trial of two members of the Pichincha Provincial Electoral Tribunal has begun in a tense climate and amid national expectation. The public hearing which opened the trial was attended by the president of the electoral tribunal of this province, Jose Maria Gordillo. In the course of his defense there was a direct confrontation between the two electoral organizations, but some of the explanations given led to a change in the atmosphere.

When the hearing began Jose Baquero, president of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, explained that it was not a trial of the Pichincha tribunal as an entity, but of certain members of it. The primary charges are related to the disappearance of some 60,000 votes, the stapling of ballots and duplication of electoral record forms. In addition, members of the tribunal are accused of irregular behavior in the regional vote counts and of negligence in providing security for the ballot boxes used on 16 July.

In the course of the hearing Dr Jose Guerrero, a member of the Supreme-Electoral Tribunal, explained that this was not a criminal procedure but an investigation to determine culpability with regard to the alleged irregularities. If the investigation leads to the determination that culpability existed and violations occurred, Guerrero said, then those involved will be punished.

Following the lengthy first session, the chief electoral magistrate, Jose Baquero, said that Gordillo's defense had been brilliant and intelligent. He also offered full guarantees to all the defendants.

[Begin Baquero recording] I wish to state for the record that the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, with its characteristic sense of responsibility and seriousness, has begun this hearing to judge members of the Pichincha Provincial Electoral Tribunal with great calm and seriousness, giving all those involved every opportunity to speak in their defense, and we will continue in this manner.

[Question] Dr Baquero, have you any idea how long this hearing will last?

[Answer] I am sure that the first hearings will be somewhat lengthy and difficult, but later we will get into the basic matter quickly. I do not think that there will be much delay. [end recording]

CONSERVATIVE PARTY REITERATES SUPPORT FOR DURAN BALLEN

PA031617Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 3 Sep 78 PA

[Text] The Ecuadorean Conservative Party has not withdrawn its support for Sixto Duran Ballen because such a decision is entirely up to a party assembly, says an information bulletin sent to this radio station. Support for the candidacy of Sixto Duran Ballen was ratified through telegrams sent to provincial leaders on 25 August and released publicly by Duran Ballen over a television program, the bulletin says. In the communique Colonel Arnijos says that the comments made in political circles are based on half-truths or distortions so as to cause a break in the forces backing Duran Ballen. In view of these comments he declares categorically--to dispel all doubts--that the Conservative Party has withdrawn from the Constitutionalist Front, a circumstantial organization of several political parties and groups. As reported in the 25 August announcement, this is something totally apart from our support for presidential candidate Duran Ballen.

The press report published on 31 August, he points out, represents political opinions which are in line with the present national situation, but in no way alter the political line or trend of thought of the Ecuadorean Conservative Party.

Guevarist Party Backing Continues

PA011956Y Quito Radio del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 1 Sep 78 PA

[Text] The Radical Guevarist Party has reaffirmed its support for the Constitutional Front of Sixto Duran Ballen, denying persistent reports that they had left the front. Gustavo Sosa, director of the party, made this statement: [begin recording] It is not true that my party has decided to leave the National Constitutional Front. We find no valid reasons to betray our decision, which was very well thought out and had the authorization of the party's highest command and the national provincial leaders. Therefore, we will follow the same line. I do not know if a variation in the order of the candidates would result if our policy changed. In any case, our policy will always be against aggressive politics, seeking pure democracy through candidates such as Sixto Duran Ballen, who, we feel, could be the Ecuadorean people's hope.

BOMB EXPLODES IN 'EL UNIVERSO' OFFICE

PA030243Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2016 GMT 2 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Guayaquil, Ecuador, 2 Sep (LATIN)--It was announced today that a dynamite explosion which occurred last night in the offices of the newspaper EL UNIVERSO in this city, located 480 km southeast of Quito, wounded seven persons and caused considerable damage. The powerful explosion occurred late last night on the ground floor of the building that houses the offices of EL UNIVERSO, one of the country's two leading newspapers, that daily reported today. The bomb was discovered shortly before it went off and several employees tried to deactivate it by throwing water on it. Their efforts proved futile and the explosion wounded seven persons--several journalists among them--although none of them seriously. An elevator collapsed, while doors, windows and even a number of cement structures on the building's ground floor were destroyed. The explosion, which occurred next to the newspaper's advertising office, also seriously damaged the building's first floor, where EL UNIVERSO's editorial room is located and which, at that hour, was crowded with journalists.

According to the newspaper, the bomb was found shortly after a group of Guayaquil University psychology and philosophy students showed up at the office to protest a delay in resuming classes. The explosion, the newspaper wrote, constitutes "an abominable act of political terrorism aimed at silencing or at least frightening this newspaper which, with its independence and seriousness, represents Ecuador's most important current of opinion." EL UNIVERSO, which immediately received the support of other communications media and journalists unions, affirmed that Guayaquil's press media are frequently attacked "while the authorities have not shown the least interest in fulfilling their obligations."

ECUADOR, LIBYA ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

PA022203Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1855 GMT 2 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 2 Sep (AFP)--It was officially announced here today that Ecuador and Libya have agreed to establish diplomatic relations as of Friday, 1 September. According to an Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry communique, the two governments made this decision because of their "desire to promote cordial relations and encourage mutual cooperation." The Ecuadorean and Libyan governments will appoint their respective representatives in Quito and Tripoli on a mutual future date.

PEREZ NOTES TRANSNATIONAL INTERFERENCE IN ANDEAN PACT MATTERS

PA04201Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 4 Sep 78 PA

[Text] President Carlos Andres Perez has denied that he aspires to obtain a new constitutional mandate. The president made the announcement in San Cristobal. He said that as a lifetime senator, he will always follow closely the programs implemented by the Miraflores Palace.

The chief of state noted that what has happened in Nicaragua is unbelievable and that Latin America cannot remain unmoved by events of this nature. The president also said that a joint decision on automotive policy will be adopted on 2 October in Caracas. He said that the Andean Pact goes beyond what the European countries did when they created the Common Market.

The president said that the very complexity of the pact entails difficulties and that the pact is on a collision course with many interests. He also said that the automotive program will really put the Andean Pact in motion. He added that the transnationals of the automotive industry are doing everything possible to create divisions among our countries to prevent the Andean Pact from growing stronger.

MINISTER FORSEES IMPORTANT LATIN AMERICAN ROLE IN ENERGY CRISIS

PA032322Y Paris AFP in English 2314 GMT 3 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, Sep 3 (AFP)--Venezuelan Energy Minister Ulises Ramirez [as received] said upon arrival here today that Latin American will play an important role during the impending crisis resulting from a shortage of hydrocarbons (oil and natural gas).

The minister said that Latin America had reserves double or as much as triple those of Iran and Saudi Arabia and that with proper exploitation these reserves could solve the world's looming energy crisis.

Latin America is a sleeping giant that is beginning to awaken, he said.

He added that nuclear energy is not the most appropriate form of energy to replace oil, saying that he preferred to rely on coal, geothermal sources and solar energy.

The Venezuelan minister is here for the ninth ministerial session of the Organization of Latin American countries for Energy (OLADE).

VENEZUELA TO FINANCE DOMINICAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

PA022319Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1327 GMT 2 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpt] Santo Domingo, 2 Sep (AFP)--President Antonio Guzman announced last night that the Venezuelan Government has promised to finance his government's development programs. Guzman said he had discussed this with Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, who promised him that he would send a "high-level commission" to Santo Domingo next week to study development programs and possible financing. According to Guzman, the commission would be led by the president of the Venezuelan Investment Fund. "With Venezuela's aid," the president added, "the country can immediately implement the government's development plans, which have been delayed for economic reasons." President Guzman explained that the Venezuelan commission will study and discuss "the Dominican Government's needs in various development areas."

LOPEZ-PORTILLO'S 1 SEP STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

PA021648Y Mexico City Domestic Service in Spanish 1658 GMT 1 Sep 78 PA

[State of the Union address before Congress by President Jose Lopez-Portillo delivered in National Congress Building, Mexico City--live]

[Excerpts] This is the second time I have reported on the state of the public administration in this country. Now, as before, I fulfill my duty of informing the nation and replying to the mandate which the people confer on their rulers to represent and serve them. The president has the responsibility of analyzing what has been done or left undone, for better or for worse. Today it is you who pass your judgment; tomorrow history will do so.

I am not going to say what some would like me to say. I shall say what I must say to all of you, to inform, explain and lead, never to deceive or to create utopias; neither to exalt or discourage and much less to offend or humiliate anyone.

National Development Plans

During my presidential inauguration I asked for time and a truce. They were given me, and have served to support all our advances along the agreed course. However, and this is explainable, there are those who would present the bill. "Not 1 more day," they say, as if time did not belong to all of us. Others say: "No more truce," as if haste, violence and disorder were values which must be rescued and it is a matter of choosing between peace and war--peace which belongs to us all and is for all, or the war which I refuse to consider between Mexicans. [applause]

Development has two priority objectives, food and energy sources. The concept of priorities does not exclude other aspects and, when least expected, we have channeled resources which often were not used before. We must organize all activities so that, in a coordinated manner, they complement each other.

During the most critical moments of the crisis it was proposed that salary increases be moderated in order to lighten a load on the administration that could have become unwieldy. Instead of dissenting, the workers assumed an attitude of solidarity and militancy. We attained our purpose, but the workers' sacrifice cannot be constant, nor can it be imposed. It was a courageous but necessarily transitory measure. If it were extended, it would cause a greater demand and would paradoxically prevent recovery. Now we must reasonably compensate the workers for their sacrifice.

We have programmed successive goals that define the general plan for national development in three biannual stages. The first 2 years, solution of the crisis; the next 2 years, consolidation of the economy; the last 2 years, accelerated growth.

The first stage, solution of the crisis, is about to be completed. It has been possible, as it has been possible before when there is something important that must be done, thanks to the workers of the team. It was a matter of lifting the country from prostration, of keeping our heads above water, of recovering our confidence in ourselves--nothing more, but nothing less. [applause]

In the second stage, consolidation, we must repair what has been damaged. We must overcome the trap imposed on us by insufficiency and deficiency in order to break the vicious circle of not producing what we need for lack of resources and not having the resources because we do not produce. But we can and we must. In this manner we shall open the doors to the stage of accelerated growth. But in order to attain real progress, the benefits must be divided equitably; otherwise, we degrade ourselves. Either we advance or retreat, because in life immobility is impossible.

Today for the first time in the past 3 years, because of our efforts, real economic growth will be greater than the population increase and will reach 5 percent. In this manner, we are fulfilling our first modest but realistic proposals. [applause]

We have curbed inflation, which today is not a problem but a persisting de facto situation which we can dominate gradually by means of production and productivity but not by reducing demand to the detriment of those with less income.

Of the figures and data that abound in the annexes, I want to emphasize only that the public sector budget for 1978 was 911,450 billion pesos. This is 35 percent higher than the 1977 budget. The public spending referred to in the various activities amounted to 635 billion pesos, of which the funds for investment represented almost one-third and serve the great national priorities.

The budget of expenses for 1978 was slow during the first months of the year, but in June it reached the expected levels. Most of the resources for the financial program are its own. They were complemented by internal and external sources.

Real national income increased during the first half of this year by more than a third in comparison with the same period last year. In order to strengthen purchasing power without inflating prices, we have exempted from income tax those who earn less, and we will exempt still more.

Once we analyzed the situation of our economy, it was not advisable to lower the absolute figures of the public debt, but we must organize it better in terms of timing. On 30 June the public debt totaled $25 billion, of which $22 billion was contracted at more than a year and the rest at less than a year. On that same date the federal government's foreign debt reached 320 billion pesos.

We have acted according to the federal public debt law, promoting government savings and consolidating the financial structures of quasigovernment concerns, of which 12 were merged during this period and 6 were eliminated.

We stress that we have $2.719 billion in primary reserves and more than 1.828 [billion dollars] in secondary reserves despite accelerated payments to the International Monetary Fund. With this we have liquidated the loans contained in the agreement on expanded payment terms signed in 1976. [applause]

We reconfirmed our credit and recovered the ability to draw automatically from the fund's resources. In this way, it is confirmed that in even the worst situations Mexico fulfills all its commitments. That is why we have credit. Our payment capacity has been fully proved. [applause]

No country is completely self-sufficient; everything is interrelated. What we do or do not do affects others and vice versa. In these conditions what is important is to have at least a balance in our foreign trade. Although from January to June there was a deficit in our total balance, if we exclude payments on interest and the amortizing of credits contracted in previous years, it can be seen that the export of goods improved. This was true not only for petroleum but also for other products of high income such as cotton, tobacco, vegetables, coffee, strawberries, cacao and plantain which, despite speculative drops and fluctuations of erratic international markets, gave agricultural trade a favorable balance at the close of 1977 of 17 billion pesos. This resulted not only in the servicing of the debt but also decreased our dependence on foreign financing and enabled us to show that it is wrong to say that we sell petroleum to buy food.

Although agriculture has not yet shown its full potential, it has also not foundered. It is able to generate resources to pay for what it still does not produce.

The inflation rate as measured by the national consumer price index was 8 percent in the first 6 months of this year. In the same period in 1977, it was 13 percent. We experienced an improvement which we hope we will maintain the rest of the year.

In no way are we satisfied. With all our determination, with all our powers, we will continue struggling against this generalized phenomenon.

According to the real possibilities of the treasury, in just recognition of the efforts of government workers and the armed forces, it has been agreed to grant a 12-percent increase in the budgeted wages of federal employees who earn up to 15,000 pesos a month and an increase of 1,800 a month for those earning more than that figure; an increase in the annual bonus to 40 days, of which 20 days will be paid in the month of December and 20 the following January; an increase in the amount of insurance coverage, in each case at no cost to the worker, and of the collective life insurance of 100,000, 200,000 and 300,000 pesos. [applause] Also, in order to contribute to the well-being of retired federal civilian and military personnel, I have issued instructions that beginning today pensions and retirement payments of less than 5,000 pesos a month will be increased by at least 12 percent; those higher than that figure will be increased by 600 pesos. [applause]

The existence or even potential sources of employment is one of the elements which determine the direction taken by the population. The policy of human settlement has two aims: one controls the existing situation created by the demographic explosion and its unbalances; the other seeks to regulate future settlements. Both converge in a type of organization which curbs excessive population concentration in metropolitan areas, concentrates the rural population in places that can be provided with infrastructures and services, and promotes the development of the medium-sized, border, tourist-interest cities, basically those which in the long term can result in new centers of priority development on the gulf coasts. These goals were the foundation for the promotion of the functions of commissions in the center of the country, the lakes, the mouth of the Panuco, Manzanillo, Barra de Navidad and Ameca rivers. In order for these to prosper, the support of the entire population is needed.

Land Redistribution

The national urban development plan was approved and will be reviewed and updated continuously. It includes municipal entities which the federation supports with advice. It is expected that by 1982 all state plans and as many municipal plans as possible will be completed. The program of territorial deconcentration is transfering those offices whose specific functions do not justify their location in Mexico City and whose investments and expenditures will signify an important contribution to local development.

We must accept that any type of property has a social function, and solely because of this it has meaning; that whoever is entitled to land has the duty of making it produce more for a rapidly expanding society, which in turn is obliged to insure better distribution. This does not involve--and I want to be very clear about this--our abandoning distribution. Let us not be misinterpreted. We want to be implementers and not apostates of agrarian reform. [applause]

To foresee and show its limitations, to offer viable alternatives to save it is coping with the problem and not escaping it under the comfortable excuse of accumulating figures of delivered hectares. Figures for this year appear in the appendix.

We would be doing nothing solid if we left distribution half finished. We have to finish it once and for all. To do otherwise would be a permanent poison of our life in common.

We must prepare new lands, distribute what can be distributed and stop pretending. [applause]

Recently, plots of land which symbolize the situation that we want to end were affected. As soon as possible and to the extent that we have the necessary and sufficient elements available, we will continue with other plots of land until we have finished them all. [applause] We will continue with others until they are all exterminated, without harming the production units, which will go from a single owner who had accumulated benefits to many organized individuals who commit themselves to working the land and even improving it. [applause]

To end abuses committed with the agrarian shelter clause, a system of indemnity bonds has been set up to avoid the delaying effects of the suspension of the act under litigation to protect the legal interests of complainants and to guarantee a rapid resolution in favor of those affected. [applause] In this way we will respect and enforce strict respect for the law of protection and, by respecting the writ of relief [juicio de garantia] we will eliminate violations and bad practices. [applause]

Agricultural Growth

The growth of agricultural production [last year] was 4 percent, a significant figure because it was attained under very adverse weather conditions and after several years when the figure was less than the growth of population. It was the feat of producers committed to the alliance. Had it not been achieved, the situation could have been very serious. The producers' spirit of cooperation was evidenced by their decision not to press for guaranteed prices for this year so long as the price of imports did not increase. This attitude warrants the recognition and support of public and private sectors since for producers this is, for all practical purposes, their sole source of income. Once more the responsible majority has set an example for us. [applause]

This year the rains have not been so bad as last year. Paradoxically, the hurricanes have left water for us. This is the awesome condition of this country of mountains and volcanoes, of jungles and deserts, of abysses and hurricanes. The humid tropical areas are virtually the only important agricultural frontier with a growth potential. Even though we have not learned how to deal with them--and it is risky to do so because of ecological damage we may cause--we have been able to drain the swamps and develop agriculture and livestock raising without affecting the jungles. There are 3.2 billion usable hectares now. We have already developed 6 pilot projects of 59,000 hectares. If there is an area in which it is advisable and highly profitable to do any research, it is precisely in our lush tropical areas. Biological control--through benign species--of plagues damaging corn, beans, cotton and citrus fruit has intensified. This technique produces many results such as a reduction in the use of insecticides, less pollution and less damage to wildlife.

Steps have been taken to step up preventive measures and campaigns to prevent the propagation of plant and cattle diseases by joining efforts in some cases with Central and North American countries.

Recently, I signed the set of regulations to determine the summer pasture indexes [agostadero], which will allow cattle ranches to abide by the law. State executives and peasant associations will participate in this task. Cattle producers are obliged to justify their landholdings with appropriate numbers of cattle. There must be no idle grasslands. [applause]

In the last few months we have covered over 25 percent of our milk deficit. We are self-sufficient in eggs, poultry, beef and pork thanks to the constant efforts of farmers and cattlemen. Thanks to the efforts of the beekeepers, we are the leading honey-producing country. However, meat prices have increased in the last few months, and for this reason the government and producers are making efforts to keep excessive participation by middlemen [excesiva intermediacion] from depriving the masses of access to meat.

Our forest areas, traditionally assailed by man, are being taken care of through the national reforestation plan, in which the National Volunteer Corps is participating with great enthusiasm. [applause] To rehabilitate the forests and to improve environmental conditions in urban centers, 30 million trees have been planted this year. We had faced the danger of extinguishing an eminently renewable resource, a typical case of self-destruction.

During the first 8 months of this year, fishing production increased by 25 percent compared to the same period last year. It is worth noting that the part of this production destined for internal consumption increased by 35 percent. The catch included more varieties and resulted in a greater domestic supply of food because, while we had available almost 150,000 tons in 1977, we had over 200,000 tons in 1978.

Oil Reserve Development

Research and exploration have led to the discovery of oil and gas reserves which are constantly and surprisingly increasing. Other probable and many potential reserves are increasing. This constant change to our inventory of resources has forced us to make speedy adjustments in our short, medium and long-range oil plan, which was logically drawn up to be flexible when it was conceived. Therefore, variations are automatically adjusted.

Mexican oil geology has managed to generate new concepts to explain the formation, location and finding of hydrocarbons in a spectacular manner. A few months ago proved reserves had already climbed to 16 billion barrels. On 31 July 1978 they amounted to 20 billion, probable reserves were 37 billion, and potential reserves were 200 billion barrels. There will certainly be more in the river banks [franjas riberenas] of what used to be seas during the earth's most ancient eras. Our ingenious specialists have found them at great depths below our present orography and seabeds in Chiapas, Tabasco, Veracruz, Campeche, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Baja California, El Portal, the Gulf and the Pacific. In most of the republic, the old seas and forests left generous traces in over 20,000 km of fossil [word indistinct] and 1.8 million square km of platforms [plataformas] trapped into hundreds of formations containing various forms of hydrocarbons. There they lie. They are reserves of the nation which, if they were ever of the devil, as a poet said, our constitution nationalized them and our institutions rescued them by and for Mexicans. [applause]

We can affirm that we have sufficient gas and oil to last beyond the early part of the 21st century without limitations.

It will be this administration's duty not only to lay the groundwork for generating and using surpluses but to begin administering them exemplarily at the end of next year. It will not be by 1982 but before, by 1980, that we will attain the constant production levels that will give us substantial surpluses, keeping proved reserves above the most conservative world levels. We are not going to tolerate any squandering.

Daily production of crude and byproducts is now 1.7 million barrels a day, more than half again as much as had been estimated only 5 months ago. And in the 7 [months] since the last computation of reserves, which was a conservative estimate, we produced 300 million barrels for our consumption and export. At the same time, our proved reserves increased [illegible] billion barrels, that is, [illegible]

This means that the abundant oil in Mexico's subsoil, combined with the effort and knowledge used to find it and prove its presence, is far higher than the amount being extracted. Our position is deliberately conservative. Countries which have less proved reserves are extracting twice the amount we are extracting.

We do not want to compromise the future but to prepare for it. For this reason--and as we have said--we will produce energy and petrochemical products for our own consumption and for export in the amount and at the time that is convenient to us, according to price oscillations and circumstances, because the decision to utilize the gas of both the [word indistinct] in the southwest as the [word indistinct] in the north under the national system we are building opens great perspectives to handle various types of structures for the production of fuels, whether these are gasoline, diesel oil, [word indistinct], gas or petrochemical products.

More than a year ago, when we looked closely at our oil potential, we had to choose between exporting the gas, which was mixed with the oil and which we were obliged to extract, to consume within the country or to burn. We chose to export it because in that way we would more quickly receive considerable foreign exchange to solve our, until then, oppressive problems. We had to call world attention to [words indistinct].

The other alternative, using the gas in Mexico, demanded more time, more promotion and would generate less foreign exchange over the short term. Therefore, assuming a traditional free trade structure, preliminary contracts [se precontrato] were entered into with foreign enterprises on the basis of revaluating the gas as a primary raw material and not as waste of a production process. One forgets that gas has energy value equal to other fuels, with advantages in terms of residues. Logically, it should have a greater value, but it does not have it under the present structure of transactions and waste.

Nevertheless, our position remains unchanged: to give the gas its true value. If there is a surplus, we can sell it or reserve it, but never squander it, which would be similar to burning it. [applause]

We did not wish to interfere in internal problems of other countries which are in the process of defining their energy policy. At the end of the term, we withdrew from the deal and returned to the other alternative: to consume it here to replace other fuels and raw materials and thereby optimize the use of our hydrocarbons. The construction of the gas pipeline is on schedule and at an investment cost well below what the first project of massive export would cost. Practically--and it gives me special satisfaction to tell you this--we have practically assured the use of all the gas production of the southeast, the possibility of extracting or not, at our own convenience, the gas in the north, and promoting, with infrastructure work according to priority, the programs of industrialization in the suitable regions, that of the Gulf of Yucatan continental shelf and that of the north and center to the Pacific Ocean. [applause]

Our potential and our geographic position is such that our stand on hydrocarbons could give us considerable leverage on a worldwide scale. For this reason, we again ratify Mexico's line: We have upheld our determined desire to give raw materials their just value. We are not, nor will be [word indistinct] against those who, like us, struggle for this. [applause]

This is the basis of the new world economic order for which we are struggling. For that reason, we have sold crude at the highest rates possible on the international market. That is why we did not sell our gas. We know that low prices prevent the new oil-producing nations of the world from prospering and growing. Levels of inflation and higher oil prices can bring the world, or to indefensible parts of the world, devastating consequences. For this reason, Mexico, reaffirming the thesis that energy sources must be considered the legacy of humanity, offers its cooperation to maintain a balance that will allow us to find lasting, valid and universal solutions.

We think it indispensable that the knowledge, financing and capital goods of developed nations should flow to us at reasonable costs and opportunity to promote the search and installation of alternate sources of energy. This would permit petroleum to be saved, expanding the deadline for its depletion, [words indistinct] fuel and make use of other sources of energy.

With this in mind, I proclaim to these generations the duty and right to use our petroleum from this time forward to assure the future of our nation. [applause]

We will do so not only with this resource which, although abundant, is not renewable, but also by relying on others which do renew themselves and multiply themselves through labor. Here lies the importance of producing more in all spheres and not signing rubber checks against petroleum. Electricity and hydrocarbons are determinants of development. Energy capacity increased by 1.5 million kilowatts, the largest in 1 year, the electrical sector's financial situation was balanced out and the extraordinary increase in consumption--65 percent of which is by the industrial sector--shows the true recovery of the national economy. Early this year a process of integrating parastate steel-producing entities was undertaken which will permit their productivity to be increased and the most profitable exploitation of each of them. Impetus was given to the capital goods industry and, to increase mining and metallurgical production, the process was strengthened, not only in the extractive aspect but also in trade.

In the first months of next year, we expect the completion of the railroad line which will link this important port and development area with the center of the republic. The systems of air navigation aids have been reorganized, a public service of the highest interest in which our federal government has been making sizeable investments to guarantee the security of our airspace.

We have established a coherent policy of port infrastructure and operations, with preferential attention given to the eight principal ports of the country having the greatest activity, and other foreign and tourist ports are being developed for better service. We are promoting our port resources, especially the isthmian zone which, having ports on both coasts, will also be connected by land as envisioned in the project we already call Alfa Omega.

Communications and transportation are the vehicles of tourism. The possibilities of increasing tourism are very good because of great national and international demand. If in 1977 this sector recovered, in 1978 the outlook is even more encouraging because in the first 5 months alone tourism increased by 18 percent, revenue increased by one-third over the same period last year and lodgings by 11,000 rooms, generating directly or indirectly 48,000 new jobs. If this trend continues we will move from recovery to genuine growth. To encourage this activity, we will sign agreements between public and private sectors which will require sizeable investments.

Cultural, Social Progams

The present regime plans to extend the benefits of culture and recreation to the entire population, primarily to neglected groups in the cities and rural areas and youths, who represent over half of all Mexicans. To this end, last November a center within the education sector was established as an organ to coordinate all actions on behalf of youths. In addition, much has also been done to disseminate culture and promote artistic activities, particularly directed toward the less-favored strata.

The expansion and improvement of these services receive significant contributions from a financial fund which gives social and cultural programs resources of a nonfiscal nature in coordination with the competent institutions. [words indistinct] have been established in every state of the republic to facilitate the cultural coexistence of Mexicans. In addition, the fund supports programs for the integral development of neglected areas, education in nutrition, aid to disaster areas, and the construction of recreational parks in urban and rural areas. [applause]

In line with federal decentralization, the medical center of the west was inaugurated and agreements with the United States on the exchange [surrogacion] of medical and social services were renewed and expanded. Emphasis has been placed on the actions of the national family planning program with the aim of reducing the population growth rate to 2.5 percent annually by 1982. The results to date have been highly satisfactory. In the first 18 months of the present administration, almost 1.5 million new persons have been incorporated into the program.

Political Reform

Fifteen groups have sought to be registered as political organizations. The Federal Electoral Commission will rule on this under the law. The success of the political reform we have undertaken depends to a great extent on the functioning of the parties, on the respect for the laws we have enacted for ourselves, and the behavior of leaders and members with respect to the new legislation.

The creation of 104 districts in addition to the 196 which formerly existed has made it necessary to reissue electoral credentials to over 12 million citizens. The task of registration is being carried out with the close and vigilant cooperation of the political parties.

Political reform, as a means of proposing changes in the legal system, will be carried out by the executive, under my direction, through two initiatives that I will shortly present to this honorable Congress. The first initiative that I intend to present regulates the power of the Senate of the republic to declare when the time has come to appoint a provisional state governor, whenever constitutional powers have disappeared. The law will establish with precision the situation and causes which can create this condition, and only these will justify a Senate decision. If the Senate is in recess, its permanent commission will be authorized to make the exclusive appointment of provisional governor. Observance of this regulation will prevent authoritarian practices detrimental to individual guarantees included in our constitutional regime. [applause]

The second initiative I will submit to this honorable Congress will be a law guaranteeing the right to information, which will develop and give substance to the contents of the final part of constitutional Article 6. Because of its public order nature, its precepts will establish the framework for existing dispositions regulating the activities of the social communication media and will become the basis for other specific regulations on the matter. This initiative will define the right to information as a fundamental right at the service of the dignity and integrity of man.

We have scrupulously respected the right of assembly. Over 2,000 demonstrations have taken place in this country from 1 December 1976 to date without any regrettable confrontations or slogan. We trust that the diverse ideologies, currents of opinion and interests will not indulge in provocation but will help to avoid it. We also trust that, in exercising this right, they will not impinge upon other rights, such as the freedom of movement, of work and [word indistinct]

We have fought corruption in public administration despite scandal and political suspicion. [applause] Corruption is not exclusive to public administration. There are no transfressors without accomplices or customs without traditions. The evil with which we have been afflicted, perhaps for some centuries, is the cause and consequence of our backward systems. But if we all make an effort, it is not irremediable.

Within the many criminal cases that have been initiated in the course of this effort, there are some which, according to some, have dubious motives. Those who think that are mistaken. Those involved have not been chosen because of their political background, which in almost every case goes back several administrations, but rather because of the clarity of the charges and the evidence brought against them. We will continue no matter who turns out to be guilty. [applause]

The protection and security of citizens, the defense of territorial integrity, the guarantee of independence and sovereignty are missions which have always been fulfilled with loyalty and valor by our armed forces. [applause] Their efforts in aiding the civilian population in cases of disaster are well known, as is their efficient cooperation in the permanent campaign against drug trafficking. We have done everything that can be done from the viewpoint of the supply of those cowardly drugs; the rest must be done in the areas where they are consumed. [applause]

To the force of arms is added the moral authority of those who constantly act within the law. Our armed forces have understood the circumstances that Mexico is experiencing. They have carried out and will continue to carry out this profession knowing that the president of the republic has for many years held especially warm affection for it. [applause]

'Internationalist' Foreign Policy

Mexico has had a single international policy from the time of independence to the present. Never have our principles been sacrificed because of circumstances or transitory interests. Consistency continues to be our pillar and strength. Historically, our neighbor has gone beyond the defensive positions which guarantee independence and affirm sovereignty. We participate with increasing resolve in the effort to transform the international system. We wish for a tomorrow--if infamy does not prevent it--of relations among responsible persons and not with superpowers. Joint analysis of different approaches, exchange of information, frank and direct dialog permit a precise explanation of our positions, a better understanding of the proposals of others and promote favorable agreements. Hence the importance of meetings among chiefs of state and government.

We received the visit of the president of the Presidential Council of the People's Republic of Hungary, the president of the State of Israel, the president of Costa Rica, the president of the FRG, the president of Brazil and other very distinguished visitors on official missions for their governments. In addition, we held state meetings with the king of Spain, the president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the president of the Council of State of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. It is a great pleasure for me to state that, while we were in the USSR, that government signed the second protocol of the Tlatelolco treaty, thereby expressing that country's determination to contribute to the disarmament and denuclearization of Latin America. [applause]

In response to an invitation extended to me by the chief of government of Panama, we participated in the exchange of the instruments of ratification of the Panama Canal treaties in the presence of the rulers of the United States, Venezuela, Colombia, Jamaica and Costa Rica. Once again we reiterated Mexico's support for the Panamanian people in their struggle to exercise unlimited sovereignty over their entire territory. [applause]

We pay special attention to relations with our neighbors. We seek solutions to problems that arise, demanding only what we offer: solidarity and respect.

The systems of comprehensive analysis and coordinated solutions agreed upon during our visit to the United States are operating satisfactorily. These systems were established to avoid constant increases of official interference or dangerous deformations. Mexican matters do not concern U.S. domestic affairs, just as U.S. problems are not a factor in our domestic policy. To understand this is the basis of our friendship, whatever the intensity or diversity of our contacts.

Our relations with other countries are of a strictly internationalist nature. Aware of the contrast between the meager achievements and repeated diplomatic efforts made since the last war, we have entered negotiations for universal disarmament in which all nations, and especially countries without armed forces, backed by moral authority, must participate.

For the poor countries, the sheep for all the wolves, it is very important to avoid war, but it is not enough. In addition they are concerned about the vital needs of nutrition, health, education, jobs, housing, security. To us it is also important to achieve peace, and this is achieved by organizing the world economy, organizing finance, commerce and the monetary systems, in order to eliminate not only war but also hunger, poor health and ignorance.

The resources exist. Of course, they do not belong to us; they belong to the strong, who use them to invent new weapons or to make more of the old weapons in such quantities that they can even be exported at very good prices. [applause]

We will struggle to make the powerful understand us, to make them deserving of power that could be the blessing of humanity but which today is the scourge of peoples. [applause]

We struggle to have UN institutions channel real resources to developing countries and have those countries decide how to use them; to obtain approval of and respect for our political position on the sea, which provides for the exploitation of exclusive economic zones and international waters; and to obtain protection for the sovereign decision of each country regarding its raw materials.

We struggle in all forums for the establishment of a new economic order. In this regard, almost everything has been said, and almost nothing has been done. As we have no weapon other than our principles and our words, we will continue to use them until the energy of peoples and the power of right bring about [this new order]--within the confines of international law. [applause]

This has been a year in which we enriched our political life and even our freedoms but also a year in which, for one reason or another, either because of the crisis or because of the struggle to combat it, we did not progress in the redistribution of wealth--a year in which we could not provide jobs for all those who wished to work, in which perhaps certain inequities may have been accentuated, despite our commitment to justice. This is what most hurts the sentiments of the nation.

Freedom and justice are paradigmatic concepts which, although mentioned and heard very often, are not eroded. They give meaning to the world and to life: Their value is lasting in time, even if they are not achieved.

Domestic Objectives

We have to convert norms into realities for over 64 million Mexicans who by the end of the century will number over 100 million. We will be, according to what we have done, either in fertile lands and cultivated fields or in the desert, in useless land; in deformed giant cities and tiny, dispersed settlements or in harmonious urban and rural equilibrium; with prices that are shot up (se disparan) or subsidized, or with real costs, acquisitive power and fair profits; with unproductive wastelands or with industrial complexes and productive farms; with sad children who get sick or with happy children; with [word indistinct] rich who travel to buy property abroad and with youth obsessed by impotence who kill and die knowing that in that way they will not get what they want or with a healthy and fair people, increasingly well informed who know these differences and challenge them and who demand enjoyment of life's gifts; in the end, to [word indistinct] because everything continues the same or with the model we designed together and is the result of our triumphs and mistakes, of our possibilities and competition.

The task now is less difficult but more sensitive than when we began. Prospects are promising and the range of alternatives is extensive. For this reason, the end is riskier and any mistake, more serious. We are about to overcome the economic crisis that had its most dramatic moment at the end of 1976. We faced it (?with urgency). Let us now face the important, the most serious time Mexico has lived in all its history; the fundamental crisis, the social problem. [applause]

First, we will guarantee the existence of a surplus, which calls for stepping up the economy and financing development for this purpose. We must use the surplus to strengthen the state and to protect and increase national property, preferably, through long-term programs that anticipate the 21st century. We will work for the national priorities that have already been established. [words indistinct] We will opportunely define the projects.

We have said that one of the characteristics of underdevelopment is the absence of projects. It would be paradoxical if, because we lacked them, we would have to export capital or increase consumption. We will have to carry out three kinds of programs: programs of expansion, the modification of the present infrastructure--which is what yields more benefits sooner; other new ones that will raise the level and standard of living of Mexicans, especially the neglected, and which guarantee a permanent promotion of productive, permanently and fairly paid employment; and projects of research and technology which, through financing, promote industrial and rural development.

We will develop microregions with infrastructures and direct support for agriculture and agribusiness, as well as actions in specific communities to retain the rural labor force that originates there. We will develop specific programs for small industry and mining. We will create new structures to develop natural resources which are now neglected for lack of financing. We must foresee in time the diversification of primary energy sources to substitute for hydrocarbons and fully incorporate the atom and its potential. We will advance, step by step, inch by inch, to place resources in the best places and at the best time. If we tried to open a broad front, the effect would be imperceptible and the resources would vanish into thin air.

The surpluses obtained from export taxes, production taxes and royalties will be administered through separate accounts on which there will be special and annual accounting to this congress. This is what we will formally propose soon. [applause]

All this will be made possible through what we call our financial self-determination to live better, with fewer inequities, with equal assurances to take advantage of opportunities. The administrative reform which we undertook includes these aspects and it should not be used as an excuse to pursue new rhetoric or to establish enclaves. What we pursue with it is not to change the way of speaking but of behaving. Let events correspond to words. Let officials work as a team with similar goals.

Political reform is a step toward consolidating our democracy. It does not concede, but grants recognition. It incorporates political parties into the de jure regime. It incorporates isolated voices. It does not impose or reject; it opens dialog. If the coming generations continue to perfect our political life, they will do so through institutional change, which transforms even the constitution itself and which, above differences, will seek agreement and unity on key issues.

Let us not allow egotism, irrationality or violence without a national project [as heard] guide the changes that will take place in coming years.

Political Amnesty

It is worthwhile to open new [word indistinct] opportunities to those who, for some political motive, are in prison or fugitives because they committed crimes by forming extreme opposition groups but who did not take any lives. With this in mind, I will send this honorable congress the amnesty bill that will benefit those who, attempting to solve their own and others' problems that stem from social and economic deprivation that unfortunately still exists, expressed their nonconformity through the mistaken route of crime. With this initiative I want those Mexicans to return to their homes, to rejoin the civil activities that the country needs and to assume their responsibilities in national life. Let us resume our work together with them. [applause, shouts of "long live Lopez-Portillo"]

This, gentlemen, was written several days ago, before the latest, reproachable events. We have carefully and responsibly meditated on this grave matter in which national conciliation may be at stake, and when I see mothers on a hunger strike to find their children and others in mourning--all of them children of Mexico, all young like our own children--I reiterate my decision. The small groups or interests which we still do not know where they are rooted cannot frustrate the possibility that, forgetting [words indistinct], the country will have the right to start again. For this reason, we reiterate our intention of initiating this amnesty law. [applause]

I am certain that today, as yesterday with Juarez, Lerdo de Tejada and Cardenas, an amnesty law will make our social and political peace grow deeper and more productive. [applause]

PROPOSAL SEEKS PARTICIPATION IN UN NAMIBIAN FORCE

PA310521 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 1 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpt] Jorge Illueca, Panama's permanent ambassador to the United Nations, has presented Panama's proposal on sending a 500-man batallion to Namibia to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. In an exclusive statement to Radio Libertad, Illueca announced that Panama will certainly be chosen to be part of the UN group that will assist in Namibia's transition period. The commission studying the integration of the military-civil contingent will make a final decision by Wednesday.

The Panamanian diplomat met yesterday with Kurt Waldheim, to whom he made the proposal offered by our chief of government, Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera, during his recent visit to Santo Domingo.

Panama has previously sent two peace batallions to the Middle East to supervise the cease-fire on the Sinai Peninsula.

The UN secretary general gladly accepted the Panamanian offer but the final decision will not be announced until next week.

POLITICAL PARTIES AGREE TO RETAIN POPULAR POWER SYSTEM

PA030358Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 31 Aug 78 pp 1, 10A PA

[Text] The consensus among members of the political organization seeking to establish a sufficiently powerful legislative branch to deepen Panamanian democracy seems to be to maintain the Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives with its present structure and functions, including the five legislative functions granted by Article 141 of the 1972 Constitution; to make the National Legislation Council an elective body; to insure that the president and vice presidents of the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives will be members of the National Legislation Council, appointed by the council itself; and to provide for the direct popular election of the president and vice president of the republic.

At a meeting a delegation of the National Liberal Party stated for the record its appreciation for the contribution made by the Broad Professionals Front through a formula harmonizing the interests of the popular power system with political currents seeking a wider distribution of powers.

The representatives of the Broad Front of Professionals, Alvaro Arosemena and corrdinator of the subcommission [as published] and Vicente Garibaldi, were entrusted to include in the basic work plan the suggested compromise formulas in order to fully undertake the task of drafting the amendments in a detailed manner during the next work session.

The Movement of National Liberation represented by Eduardo Valdes submitted a plan to form a legislative branch representing the national production sectors.

People's Party Opposition

PA040012Y Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 1 Sep 78 pp 15, 18, 32 PA

[Press release by People's Party delegates Carlos F. Changmarin and Carlos del Cid--undated]

[Text] The national press has published notes and communiques on the work of the high-level commission which is studying the law on political parties and related constitutional amendments, conveying the impression that the commission members representing various political parties have reached a basic agreement.

Definitely. In unconstitutional matters and other topics, some degree of consensus has been reached. We who represent the People's Party delegation want to publicly disclose key proposals so that it will be clear that there is no agreement on these matters between us and the representatives of the Liberal Party, the Agrarian Labor Party, the National Liberation Party and the Popular Broad Front.

Regarding the so-called constitutional amendments, we have stated that we understand an amendment as to be an elaboration on a topic set forth in the constitution and not a change in content which eliminates the progressive tone of the 1972 Constitution. We are opposed to turning the high-level commission into a constituent commission [comision proconstituyente]. We have proposed amendments only to advance the revolutionary process and not to retard it. Therefore, we feel that people's power should not only retain its functions but also be given more political and legislative decisionmaking power. Thus, contrary to the other parties, we have stated that the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives should be the supreme power within the Panamanian state and that the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives should choose the new NATIONAL LEGISLATION COUNCIL from among its members and therefore it should be reformed in the sense that its function should be to formulate and approve laws. We have suggested that the National Assembly should elect not only the heads of the Executive branch but also the supreme court justices, electoral tribunal magistrates, the attorney general and the comptroller general.

We are opposed to amending other parts of the constitution, as with calls for the direct election of certain executive branch members and the so-called separation of power because behind these changes, which are not amendments, lurks the spirit of a return to pre-1968.

As far as the political parties are concerned, we advocate their legal status, including legal recognition of the People's Party, which is the means of expression of Panamanian Communists. However, we have introduced the idea of distinguishing between the ELECTORAL EVENT of every 6 years with a necessary list of supporters and the PARTY AS A SOCIOPOLITICAL ORGANIZATION that should have a platform, ideology, objectives and a stable organization. It should be based on elected democratic structures, have historic continuity and state a set of basic principles which include, among others, the struggle to give the masses a new democratic awareness of participation at all levels of political power; the production of goods and the decisionmaking process; defense of the accomplishments in the 1972 Constitution, especially the strengthening of people's power, defense and bolstering, among other things, of the new state, mixed and cooperative property and supervision of implementation of the country's decolonization according to the favorable guidelines established in the Torrijos-Carter treaties, with the added intention of providing for the most community-oriented use of what is returned of the Canal Zone.

For the electoral event, lists of supporters or records of supporters should be presented during every election not only by the political parties but also by the social organizations and the citizenry as a means of freely vying for a post. The results of the election every 6 years should not determine the legal life or recognition of the political parties. Thus, there should be two quotas for a party's legalization and another quota to nominate candidates for elective posts or to participate in electoral events or acts in general.

[illegible] the CPP People's Party delegation.

Carlos Zuasnavar and Carlos del Cid

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL ASKS TORRIJOS TO REMAIN IN POWER

PA060231Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 5 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpt] The Provincial Coordination Council for Panama Province today unanimously approved a resolution asking Gen Omar Torrijos to continue as chief of government. The resolution, approved by 78 representatives, the mayors of Panama, San Carlos and Chame and the technical board's remaining 22 members, adds that General Torrijos should continue as the sole conductor and supreme leader of our revolution process.

The resolution accepts the chief of government's recommendation of citizens Aristides Royo and Ricardo de la Espriella for the posts of president and vice president of the republic.

NATIONAL GUARD OFFICIAL DEFINES 'SECONDARY ROLE' OF MILITARY

PA052029Y Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0330 GMT 5 Sep 78 PA

[Interview conducted by Mayin Correa with Lt Col Roberto Diaz Herrera, Panamanian National Guard executive secretary, "Edicion Especial" program--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Lieutenant Colonel Diaz, can you tell us something about the statements made by General Torrijos last Friday in Farallon in which he said that the National Guard will draw back and work on a secondary level?

[Answer] In our role as member of the National Guard General Staff, upon being asked by Gen Omar Torrijos, as commander in chief of the National Guard, we analyzed the institution's position regarding the new political situation in Panama. We must go back in history briefly.

The National Guard, as everyone knows, staged a military coup in 1968 which, at the time, probably everyone in America and the world--and in our country too--thought was like any other military coup, the classic coup in which power was seized--why not say so--to profit from it. However, our institution acquired a new outlook due to General Torrijos, his guidance and novel ideas, ideas which were new in Latin America and in many parts of the world. He started forming a new National Guard, giving it shape and content, with a new doctrine of its own. This surprised many, both at home and abroad. We have even been pointed out abroad, in some Latin American countries, as a bad example because of General Torrijos, who is creating a military which respects law and justice and who is not using the National Guard to entrench a caste of military figures in power to the detriment of the population. The opposite happened. The National Guard has been able to evoke the support of the civilian population.

I think that that is why when he speaks of the National Guard moving back to a secondary role, it is not difficult for us of the National Guard to understand it. Our General Staff knows the role it has to play on a secondary level, protecting the general work done by the government, watching over the conquests of the nation, watching over everything the revolutionary process has done. What will perhaps be difficult will be to convince the population itself, especially the peasants, the asentamiento [land settlements] workers, workers, students--who before saw the National Guard opposing them, pursuing them, harassing them, acting as the instrument of the government which used us to hold power--that we are now retreating to a secondary role.

[Question] Do you think the decision announced by General Torrijos in his and the General Staff's name is also an agreement, the consensus of the National Guard?

[Answer] Yes, of course. It is the consensus of Torrijos, as commander of the second in command and of the General Staff, and we are absolutely sure of this because we have direct connections with the officers. We have meetings with them, training seminars in which [illegible] the doctrine to be followed by the National Guard. General Torrijos is a spokesman of the National Guard, not only because he is its commander--he gives the orders--but because we all believe in his philosophy and in his guidance and way of leading the National Guard. That is why I would say that, in effect, this is the consensus of all the National Guard officers.

[Question] Colonel Diaz, everyone knows of General Torrijos' active participation on the international scene, politically speaking. We know that he is as interested in domestic events as in those abroad, the international world. Do you think that it is true, as many have said, that in some way General Torrijos is giving an example to other military governments in Latin America?

[Answer] Yes, definitely. I find, not only as a subordinate, as a militaryman, but also as a citizen and observer of the situation that the general has evolved tremendously. General Torrijos is not the classic, traditional coupist military figure--even though we started with a coup. He has said that the quota of coups in America has been surpassed, that is to say, coups are now outdated, that there should be no further coups in America--that distorted but very justified image of the classic military figure who attains power by means of coups in order to dominate the civilian population and to enrich himself and the military caste in power. He is now showing this with his selflessness. We are sure he could obtain whatever position he wanted in the national government in Panama through votes. However, in an act of patriotic selflessness, he placed himself in a different role and spoke of going to a secondary level. I do not know if he is sending a message to the world, to America, in doing this but, definitely, even though he may not want it, his pronouncement will have great repercussions in America and will surely influence other militarymen.

[Question] Does it mean that you, the members of the General Staff, will withdraw from the political scene in the country?

[Answer] No, Mayin. I think that would be to deny the revolutionary process itself. The process has the National Guard as its armed protector, the institution which promotes, propels and guarantees the continuation of the process. Without the National Guard, this process would not have lasted 10 years, would not have even existed. Consequently, I repeat, to do otherwise would be to deny the process. I think that returning to a secondary level is only being done to institutionalize the National Guard in a different role--the secondary level as General Torrijos calls it--so from that position it can remain on guard, permitting new civilian cadres which have been formed in the past 10 years to prove themselves on the national political scene within a new realm of political activity in accordance with the new rules being formulated for this country. They will have the opportunity now to be responsible for the revolutionary process. The civilian group, for example, those chosen by the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives as president and vice president, and their entire government team will be the ones who will occupy the first level. The National Guard retreats, as the general says, in order to help maintain the process from the secondary level but without being a protagonist of the first order. We will no longer be primary actors, but we will be actors on the scene in any event. A set has many kinds of actors. It has actors who are prominent and actors who are more obscure, so to speak. We will continue to be actors because we could not refrain from being otherwise.

The national constitution itself points out in a very interesting way a new role for the National Guard when it says in Article Two that public power emanates from the people and is exercised by the government through the distribution of functions carried out by the executive, legislative and judicial branches, which act in harmonious collaboration with each other and the public will. This shows that the National Guard has a constitutional role.

Something else could be pointed out. For example, I am not a lawyer, but in studying the way the guard functions and how it can act institutionally, we find Chapter IV of the constitution and Article 181, which speak of the General Council of State and, within that council, functions of the National Guard commander in chief. This means that no matter who is commander--in this case, General Torrijos as commander of the National Guard--he will have a role within the General Council of State. These things were not in the constitution before. Our role was different. The previous constitution said the National Guard was a nondeliberating body. I spoke of this at a meeting in Farallon. That is how the constitution of 1946 described us. It was all a legal lie, so to speak, something which sounded very romantic. In fact, we played an extremely active role.

I have confessed before that in 1968, I stuffed ballot boxes and fabricated votes in a workshop we had down at the presidency. I am ashamed, but we had to do it. And many of my superiors and comrades in arms must have also done this. It was a shameful role for an institution. I think that it is more lawful, more honest to outline a role for the National Guard by institutionalizing it, a role within a legal framework that we can fulfill without withdrawing completely, but leaving to civilians the primary role in governing the country.

[Question] Would what you are describing now be the way in which the guard insures, as the general says, that the revolutionary process will continue to be irreversible? Would it be this way?

[Answer] I would say yes because the revolutionary process will be irreversible in many ways. Through the coordinated action of the National Guard and the civilian government, the process will remain irreversible by avoiding the corrupt politics of the past and crooked elections, and by preventing the destruction of national institutions, especially the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives, of which you are a member. You know how you became a representative and it was different from that of the past. Another means of making the process irreversible would be to strengthen the social, political and economic conquests of the past 10 years. All this will make the process irreversible. We will be the guarantors of this and the younger generations of militarymen will continue to be so.

[Question] General Torrijos also said that his decision to return to the National Guard garrisons was also connected with the implementation of the new treaties. Can you expand on this?

[Answer] With pleasure. The new, growing role which our armed institution will have--growing in the sense of the recovery of the Canal Zone versus the decreasing role of the U.S. Armed Forces up until 1999 when the entire zone will revert to Panamanian hands--will compel us to go through a period of institutional consolidation as well, making the institution more technical, scientific--both militarily and as a police force--so that the duties we carry out in the Canal Zone will be much more modern. In this respect it is also up to General Torrijos to redirect the guard, strengthening it in this sense. Perhaps this also explains why we are removing ourselves from the political scene directly and passing to a secondary position. But this will also place us in a primary role regarding the part to be played by the military and police, particularly concerning the Canal Zone.

BELIZE

MINISTER SHOMAN COMMENTS ON PANAMANIAN-GUATEMALAN RELATIONS

PA0609022Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 5 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Belizean Minister of State and Attorney General Assad Shoman has explained that the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Panama and Guatemala does not interfere with the Belizean people's destiny of liberation. In a telephone interview, Shoman told this station that the Belizean people understand that the Panamanian people are friendly and that they respect the decision made by General Torrijos' government regarding the resumption of relations. Here are the statements on the subject by the Belizean minister of state: [begin Shoman recording] Those who really understand what has occurred--and judging from the government's reports and documents, we believe that would include most of the people--understand very well that Panama's position has not changed and that it continues to fully support Belize's independence and territorial integrity and the position held by the Belizean people and government.

We know that it was not Panama but Guatemala which broke relations, and now that Guatemala has resumed them, it is acknowledging that it was a mistake to break them, particularly as this occurred a few days after the Panamanian foreign minister released a very clear document reaffirming his [country's] support for Belize. It was after this that the decision to resume relations was made. So most Belizeans see no problem in that. We think it is good that this resumption of relations shows other American peoples that they can give their full support to Belize without running into any opposition on the part of Guatemala. [end recording]

Belizean Minister of State Assad Shoman stressed that Belize will continue demanding its complete independence and total liberation. [begin Shoman recording] It is true that there are certain politically motivated persons opposed to the government, who are trying to present it differently, saying that by resuming these relations Panama is moving away from its previous position of support for Belize. But most people know that this is not the case because the government has explained it to them.

Regarding the negotiations between Great Britain and Guatemala, which the Belizean government and opposition party will also attend, we hope these talks will be held shortly, but we do not yet know what the outcome will be. We do not know what ideas the Guatemalan government will bring to these talks and we simply have to wait until they are held. [end recording]

COSTA RICA

NO CHANGE REPORTED IN RELATIONS WITH NICARAGUA

PA0609231Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Relations between Nicaragua and Costa Rica have not changed as a result of the latest events in that neighboring country to the north. The Nicaraguan Government has accused our country of permitting guerrilla activity.

Although there have been talks between Foreign Minister Calderon Fournier and Nicaraguan Ambassador Ish Beatriz Lacayo, there has been no change in relations, generally speaking.

It is expected that some information will be given in regard to this situation within the next few hours. It has been said that there could even be a break in relations between the two countries.

At 1000 today, for the first time since his arrival in the country, Costa Rican Ambassador to Nicaragua Virgilio Chaverri met with Foreign Minister Calderon Fournier. Before their meeting a Radio Reloj reporter asked the ambassador about the political situation in Nicaragua and diplomatic relations between the two countries. Ambassador Chaverri did not answer these questions. But in referring to Nicaragua, he noted that what is best is that which is not said. He stated that the person most qualified to report on the matter is Rafael Angel Calderon, who so far has made no comment on relations between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

GUATEMALA

FOREIGN MINISTER CASTILLO VALDEZ TO VISIT BELIZE

PA020155Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1400 GMT 1 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpt] Panama City, 1 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez will go to Belize in the near future to meet with Prime Minister George Price. Well-informed Panamanian sources told ACAN-EFE today that the visit, which will be a landmark in developments in the British-Guatemalan conflict over Belize, had been scheduled to take place on Wednesday of this week but that it was postponed at the last minute. The new Guatemalan Government headed by Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia appears to be prepated to consider the problem in a very realistic manner, moving away from the hard rhetoric of his predecessors, according to the Panamanian sources.

HONDURAS

PAZ GARCIA REITERATES NATION'S NEUTRALITY IN REGION

PA010435Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0219 GMT 1 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 1 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--Military government junta President Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia tonight reiterated the Honduran people's and government's neutrality in conflicts affecting neighboring Central American countries.

The military chief was speaking during the ceremony transferring the command of the Tegucigalpa officers training school. Lt Col Guillermo Thuman Cordon took office as director, replacing Lt Col Jose A. Rosa Bueso. Bueso will become commander of the 4th Infantry Battalion, headquartered in the Atlantic coast port of La Ceiba. He replaces Lt Col Gustavo Alvarez, who will be commander of the 2d Infantry Battalion in the northern city of San Pedro Sula. The 2d Battalion had been under the command of Lt Col Amilcar Zelaya Rodriguez, who is now a member of the triumvirate.

Paz Garcia referred to Honduras' neutrality in the following terms: "We express what we had previously stated to international opinion: Honduras will never serve as a bridge, and much less as a base, to promote the disturbance of the peace in any neighboring country." Paz Garcia added that "we maintain the strictest military vigilance on our borders as a positive guarantee of our decision to respect the free self-determination of peoples and to keep ourselves outside of any domestic conflict which affects the rest of the Central American nations."

He also indicated that the military government junta he heads respects and fulfills international treaties, agreements and commitments that oblige Honduras to maintain respectful and cordial relations with neighboring and friendly countries. In this way and without directly referring to them, Paz Garcia responded to official reports from Nicaragua which noted alleged Honduran participation with Honduran Army weapons in the latest uprisings in Matagalpa.

NICARAGUA

SOMOZA COMMENTS ON ARRESTS OF OPPOSITION

PA051929Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0533 GMT 5 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Sep (AFP)--Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza has confirmed the arrest of 200 members of the Broad Opposition Front in different parts of the country in a telephone interview with a Mexican television newscast this evening. However, he added that about 50 "have already been released" and that the rest were imprisoned for "participating in terrorist activities" during the rebellion of the past few days.

Speaking on the position of President James Carter and his government, Somoza declared that "tney want me to continue maintaining tranquility in the country and to lead it to free elections in 1981" and again denied that his son, Anastasio Somoza Portocarrero, will run as the Liberal Party candidate in the elections.

Asked about the situation Nicaragua would experience if he left power, Somoza asserted that "nobody and nothing could control the situation." As for the participation of Sandinists in a coalition government without Somozaism, his opinion was that "Nicaragua would become a Marxist-Leninist state." He said the situation in the country was "normal" and 80 percent of the businesses in Managua were operating, as were 50 percent in the provinces.

SOMOZA ACCUSES VENEZUELA'S PEREZ OF INTERVENTION

PA060256Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2215 GMT 5 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpts] Managua, 5 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--Gen Anastasio Somoza today, Tuesday, accused the Venezuelan Government of joining U.S. and Cuban intervention in Nicaragua. President Somoza spoke at 1430 local time (2030 GMT) at a press conference held in the former military casino in Managua. It was attended by over 100 newsmen from the United States and other countries.

Requesting the OAS Permanent Council to convoke consultations to consider the Nicaraguan situation encourages subversive groups in their efforts to force Nicaragua to suffer the painful experience of the Dominican Republic in 1965, Somoza said, referring to a Venezuelan Government request in this regard. Somoza also appealed to all OAS countries to reject this interventionism by President Perez.

He also denounced Nicaraguans who encourage violent actions against the government and those who follow the subversive slogans of President Perez. Somoza added that the national constitution, international agreements and the rights of a free and sovereign country give him the right to defend himself from these attacks.

When asked if his words could lead to a break in relations between Nicaragua and Venezuela, he said that it was a possibility.

Regarding the existing strike, he said that it was less critical than the one held last February. The difference between this strike and the previous one is that this one is indefinite. Nicaragua is experiencing today its 12th day of the strike, a measure taken by the Broad Opposition Front and anti-Somoza organizations to force the Nicaraguan president to resign. Somoza said that only 50 percent of business activity is paralyzed and that the government's attitude is to wait until striking businessmen become exhausted and bankrupt due to their position. He also said that the Nicaraguan opposition is not organized, has no real national structure and is made up of self-styled leaders who are just "paper tigers."

Asked about a Jack Anderson article published today in the Miami HERALD saying that the Somoza family owns 10 percent of Nicaragua's wealth, the president replied that he does not read Jack Anderson but that his lawyers do. In this respect, he said that Anderson was mistaken and could be called a liar.

Considering that the strike has been called for an indefinite period, he was asked how long the government was prepared to confront the movement. He replied that the government is prepared to confront the strike for whatever length of time is necessary.

Somoza was told that in his time De Gaulle had held a referendum to find out if the French people wanted him to stay in power and Somoza was asked if he was willing to do the same. To this the Nicaraguan president replied "that if the law allowed it he would have held one already, but that the law did not permit it."

He was asked for his opinion on the Matagalpa events, to which he replied that it was regrettable and that it had been caused by 30 persons. He added that the population had not supported these 30 persons.

BUSINESSMEN AGAIN ASK FOR SOMOZA'S RESIGNATION

PA052237Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1657 GMT 5 Sep 78 PA

[By Horacio Ruiz]

[Excerpts] Managua, 5 Sep (AFP)--The situation in Nicaragua continues to be extremely tense, despite the government's announcement today that 70 of the 200 persons it admits having arrested in the past few days were released this morning.

The armed struggle has ceased for the moment in the interior of the country, but the general strike, which is in its 12th day today, is creating very serious economic upheavals in the country.

Government sources have admitted that tax revenues and payments for telephone and other public services have decreased alarmingly.

Bank of America personnel this morning peacefully occupied the bank's main branch as well as other branches in Managua and the rest of the country.

This also occurred 2 days ago at the Nicaraguan Bank. This means that the two main banks of Nicaragua are not open.

There is much uncertainty regarding the outcome of the economic struggle between private enterprise--which is not paying its taxes in order to bring about Somoza's downfall--and the government, determined to stay in power but not knowing how long the situation can continue.

The private sector issued a new communique defining its line of struggle as exclusively "civic" in nature, and once again demanded today the chief of state's resignation as the only means to prevent radical groups from seizing power. Businessmen feel that this would destroy the hopes of establishing a democratic government in the country.

On the other hand, it was reported that U.S. Ambassador Mauricio Solaun is holding confidential talks with political, business and financial leaders of Nicaragua to determine what kind of offer could be made to Anastasio Somoza to enable him to leave power "honorably."

NATIONAL GUARD DISCOVERS BOMB CACHE NEAR MANAGUA

PA0520355Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1626 GMT 5 Sep 78 PA

(Excerpt) Managua, 5 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--Percy Nabas died and Jose de la Cruz Rodriguez was arrested as the result of an attack against a military patrol yesterday, Monday, in the city of Matagalpa, 127 km north of Managua.

Last week, Matagalpa was the scene of violent clashes between some 400 youths armed with pistols and rifles and National Guard troops. The clashes resulted in a still undetermined number of dead and wounded.

According to a report released today, Tuesday, by the legal and public relations office of the National Guard, the two youths were riding on a motorcycle near the entrance of Tuna, Matagalpa municipality, when they fired at the patrol with the aforementioned results.

An official, the Nicaraguan army reported the discovery of at least 300 contact bombs, some molotov cocktails and gasoline cans yesterday evening in a room used by Pedro Lopez Sosa in the district of San Cristobal, southeast of this capital. Lopez Sosa was arrested, together with three youths: Luis Treminio, Elisa Sanchez and Vladimir Fuentes. According to the official report, the youths had been throwing bombs in various parts of the city.

Meanwhile, in view of the burning of vehicles on Managua's outskirts, the national transportation council, which regulates the transportation industry, has announced that bus owners have been authorized to suspend services in the areas where buses and drives are attacked. The council, which is attached to the Economy, Industry and Commerce Ministry, also said that it has under review a demand by transporters to be authorized to raise the urban service fare, which is currently 80 cents in cordobas (11 cents in dollars) to offset accrued losses. During the violence of January through March some 50 units of the mass transportation system were either damaged or burned by youth groups.

BRIEFS

COSTA RICAN OPPOSITION NEWSPAPERS--Two new opposition newspapers will begin circulating in Costa Rica in October. A morning newspaper EL MUNDO, and an evening newspaper, AVANCE, will be edited by a new journalistic enterprise said to include several political leaders who felt the country needed well-balanced public information. Alberto Canas, of the former newspaper EXCELSIOR, will manage EL MUNDO and Wilfredo Chacon will manage AVANCE. [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 Sep 78 PA]

NEW HONDURAN MILITARY APPOINTMENTS--Maj Alcides Moncada was appointed yesterday commander of the presidential honor guard, it was announced yesterday in government sources. The appointment of Capt Julio Armando Pavon as private secretary of the military government junta was also announced yesterday. [El Progreso Radio Progreso in Spanish 1230 GMT 30 Aug 78]

NICARAGUAN SANDINIST COMMUNIQUE BROADCAST OVER TELEVISION

FL051032Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Sep 78 FL

[Communique of Sandinist National Liberation Front read by Commander Hugo Torres of the "Rigoberto Lopez Perez" Command, filmed in Panama by special Cuban national television news team--recorded]

[Text] [unidentified television reporter] Dear televiewers: We have with us comrade Hugo Torres, commander one of the Rigoberto Lopez Perez guerrilla command of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN]. You will hear from him the last communique of the FSLN national directorate, addressed to the Nicaraguan people.

[Torres] Communique of the FSLN national directorate to the Nicaraguan people:

The seizure of the National Palace by the Rigoberto Lopez Perez Sandinist Command has marked the beginning of the end of the Somoza tyranny. The victorious action: Death to Somozaism, Carlos Fonseca Amador, gives the signal for us to launch an insurrectional offensive which will definitely defeat Somozaism. The general strike of the workers and the work stoppage called by merchants complete the militant panorama of condemnation of the Somoza tyranny.

The National Guard officers and soliders recently arrested and accused of plotting against the tyrant have, with their coupist attempt, weakened even more the principal support of the tyranny.

The squads and commands of the Sandinist army at this time are doubling their armed activities in the mountains. The Sandinist militia are waging a heroic struggle against the henchmen of Somoza's National Guard in Matagalpa, Estelí, Chinandega, Leon, Carazo, Managua, Masaya, Granada, Rivas, Nueva Segovia, Somoto, San Carlos, (Selaya), Chontales, Boaco and all over the national territory.

The time has come to destroy Somozaism and its principal bulwark, the National Guard. Some officials of the U.S. Department of State have begun to talk of mediation. We condemn this Yankee meddling as one more act of intervention in our fatherland to which we will respond just as (Andres Castro), (Benjamin Celedon) and Augusto Cesar Sandino did. The Yankee government, which never talked of mediation when Somoza and the Somozist National Guard were murdering peasants, students and workers, now wants to intervene, speaking of mediation while it backs and supports Somozaism and the criminal Somozist National Guard which they [the United States] founded and maintain in our country.

The gringo officials speak of mediation while the planes and bombs they sent to Somoza and his National Guard are the ones being used to bomb Matagalpa and Nicaraguan pilots trained by the U.S. Army and Yankee mercenaries fly the planes which are massacring our people.

We condemn before Nicaragua and the world the Yankee intervention attempts and we call for the militant solidarity of all fraternal nations so as not to allow the gringo intervention. We also have the duty to reject intervention by the Organization of American States--OAS--which has been characterized as an instrument of Yankee interventionist policy. The Santo Domingo experience is still fresh in our minds and we are certain that the intentions of intervening would be [aimed at] nothing more than installing Somozaism without Somoza.

We reiterate our call to form a true democratic and popular government in which all the forces that have actively struggled against Somozaism are represented.

Fundamental points for forming a democratic and popular government must be the expropriation of all the Somoza family's assets and integration of a true people's army. The Somozist National Guard will be dismantled by the people and all members of the National Guard who, effective with the publication of the Sandinist communique by the press and radio on 24 August, having assumed a patriotic attitude and begun to struggle on the side of the people, will have a place in the new army.

We must be alert to stop any coupist maneuver. We know that the most reactionary forces of capitalism, with Somozist guard and the vacillating opposition, continue to seek a solution of Somozaism without Somoza.

Long live the popular Sandinist insurrection. Long live the people's democratic government. Long live the new people's army. All against Somozaism. All against Yankee intervention. A free fatherland or death.

For the FSLN directorate: [signed] Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Victor Manuel Tirado Lopez, Humberto Ortega Saavedra. Somewhere in Nicaragua.

This was the last communique which our organization has addressed to the Nicaraguan people and the world in an attempt to once again halt North American armed intervention in our fatherland.

GOVERNMENT RELEASES NAMES OF PARDONED PRISONERS

PA052031Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1018 GMT 5 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Havana, 5 Sep (AFP)--Two persons involved in various plots to kill Fidel Castro are among the 48 prisoners recently pardoned by the Cuban Government, it was learned here today. They are Tony Cuesta and Santiago Echemendia, according to the names mentioned in circles close to the prisoners' relatives. Other names being mentioned among those who benefited from the pardon are Enrique Fernandez Ruiz, Jose Luis Valdes, Eugenio Zaldivar, Librada Fernandez Rojas, Fernando Peniche and Sergio Tula Vitar. An announcement made by the U.S. Justice Department reported the release of a first group of 48 political prisoners from Cuba without mentioning names.

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED AT UN ON PUERTO RICO

FL312341Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 31 Aug 78 FL

[Text] Cuba and Iraq have sponsored a draft resolution on the Puerto Rico case and it was introduced today to the UN special committee on decolonization. The resolution proposes maintaining the Puerto Rico case under continuous review until the people of that island are guaranteed their right to self-determination. Such a right, states the draft resolution, must be previously recognized by the United States and accompanied by a complete transfer of powers. The draft emphasizes in another part that regardless of a decision which the Puerto Rican people might make in connection with their political status, they always will have the inalienable right to independence if at any time they so desire. The resolution also labels as violations of human rights the persecution and repression perpetrated by the police and U.S. military forces against the organizations and people that are struggling for independence in Puerto Rico.

NON-USE OF FORCE IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION PROPOSED AT UN

FL011055Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 1 Sep 78 FL

[Text] Cuba has addressed the UN special committee studying the effectiveness of the principle of non-use of force, asking that the United Nations draft a treaty on this subject. This principle, which has been approved by the United Nations, stipulates that conflicts should be resolved through negotiations, without resorting to force and without making territorial claims. The Cuban proposal states that the treaty should prohibit all imperialist intervention in the internal affairs of any state, such as economic aggression.

ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION VISITS CDR OFFICES

FL012052Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2036 GMT 1 Sep 78 FL

[Text] The Ethiopian delegation headed by Maj (Belai Bideu), member of the central committee of the Ethiopian Provisional Military Administrative Council, has visited the National Directorate of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution--CDR. The delegation was received by Jose Antonio Gell Noa, member of the CDR national executive secretariat and responsible for the organization's foreign relations, and other officials.

Isle of Youth Visited

FL022324Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Sep 78 FL

[Text] (Belai Bideu), member of the central committee of the Ethiopian Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC), and the delegation that is accompanying him have visited the Mengistu Haile Mariam and (Katamarra) rural schools on the Isle of Youth. (Belai Bideu) and the PMAC members that are accompanying him on his visit talked with the scholarship students and were interested in their studies and health. The delegation toured the former Modelo Prison and the Nueva Gerona industrial development area.

ANGOLAN MINISTER OLIVEIRA ARRIVES FOR TALKS

PA021803Y Paris AFP in English 0910 GMT 2 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Havana, 1 Sep (AFP)--There are some 2,500 Cubans now in Angola helping in the country's building industry, Angolan Construction and Housing Minister Manuel Rezende de Oliviera said on his arrival here today for official talks. Mr. Oliveira and his delegation of national and provincial directors from his ministry will exchange experiences with Cuban officials and plan next year's Cuban-Angolan collaboration in the building field during their stay here.

GUZMAN VETOES AMNESTY BILL, SUGGESTS AMENDMENTS

FL051130Y Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 5 Sep 78 FL

[Text] Senator Jorge Blanco has declared that President Antonio Guzman's reservations in connection with the amnesty bill show that there is a real separation of powers in this country. In making this statement, Jorge Blanco recalled that this never happened during the presidency of President Joaquin Balaguer. The president of the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD), however, did not comment on the president's action on the amnesty bill. As is known, the legislation was introduced in the Senate by Jorge Blanco and unanimously approved by both chambers. However, Guzman (vetoed) the amnesty bill and returned it to the legislative houses for amendment. The president recommended the (?appointment) of a committee to determine political crimes and to determine, (?subject to) examination, when persecuted, accused or [word indistinct] person has acted guided by political motivation.

PRD Amnesty Commitment

FL051134Y Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 5 Sep 78 FL

[Excerpt] The Dominican Revolutionary Party secretary general has given assurances that the government of President Antonio Guzman Fernandez will promulgate the amnesty law. Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez said that the PRD is committed to the country to release political prisoners and allow exiles to return and, therefore, [words indistinct].

National Palace Demonstration

FL061106Y Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Sep 78 FL

[Excerpt] Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, secretary general of the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD], has declared that the demonstration held in front of the National Palace by supporters of political prisoners was an irresponsible provocation. The demonstrators shouted insults against the president of the republic, Antonio Guzman Fernandez, because he vetoed the general amnesty bill for political prisoners.

Pena Gomez said that relatives of the prisoners have a right to demand their release but they do not have any reason or right to insult the president. The PRD leader added that the government has been in power only 20 days and, therefore, it cannot be accused of defrauding the Dominican people.

Pena Gomez hoped that the political prisoners will soon enjoy their freedom and the exiles will return to this country. The top PRD leader recalled that his party introduced the bill to which the president has merely (?recommended) changes which do not contradict the (?concepts) of the bill.

Chamber Rejects Changes

FL061114Y Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Sep 78 FL

[Excerpt] The Chamber of Deputies has rejected the changes and recommendations which President Antonio Guzman made on the draft amnesty bill [words indistinct]. The bill, vetoed by the president who returned it to the Congress with several amendments, now goes to the Senate. If the Senate approves the bill, as the deputies did, it will have to be promulgated within the established period.

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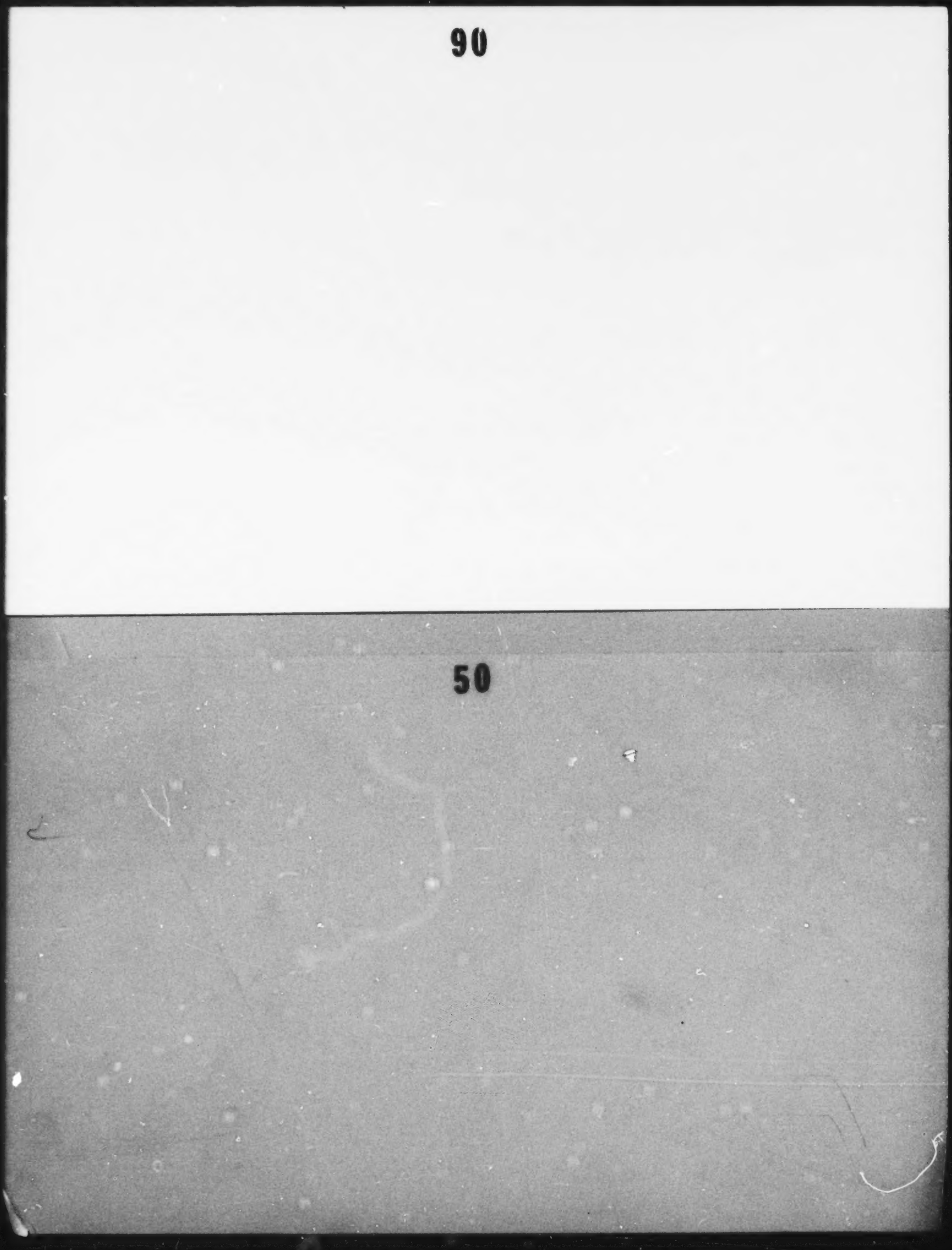
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